

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8 to read as follows.

1. (Original) An ink jet recording apparatus in which ink is ejected from recording means to a recording medium to carry out recording, comprising:

- a cap which covers an ink ejection port of the recording means;
- a cap holder which holds the cap;
- a cap base which rotatably and vertically movably supports the cap holder;

and

- a base member which rotatably supports the cap base,

wherein, when the cap is separated from the recording means by a predetermined distance, a position of the cap holder is controlled in a state in which the cap holder is oblique at a predetermined angle relative to the cap base so that an abutting plane of the cap is substantially parallel to an ink ejection port surface of the recording means.

2. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a compression spring for giving applying capping pressure of the cap is provided between the cap holder and the cap base.

3. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising plural compressions springs, wherein the compression springs are provided at a plurality of positions of the cap holder, and a supporting surface which

supports the compression ~~spring~~ springs of the cap base is parallel to the ink ejection port surface when the cap abuts on the ink ejection port surface.

4. (Original) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the cap abuts on the ink ejection port surface, the abutment is started from an end portion of a cap rib surface of the cap, an abutting range is gradually increased, and the whole surface of the cap rib surface abuts on the ink ejection port surface.

5. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when the cap abuts on the ink ejection port surface, the abutment is started from an end portion of the cap rib surface of the cap and the whole surface of the cap rib surface abuts on the ink ejection port surface in such a manner that the cap and the cap holder are rotated around ~~the~~ an abutting start portion as a center, ~~when the cap abuts on the ink ejection port surface~~ center.

6. (Original) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a rotational position of the cap base is controlled by a rotating cam provided below the cap base.

7. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a distance between a rotational center of the cap base and ~~the~~ a rotational

center of the rotating cam is smaller than the distance between the rotational center of the cap base and the cap holder.

8. (Currently amended) An ink jet recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, ~~in the cap holder~~, shaft portions provided on both sides of the cap holder are slidably engaged with groove portions provided in the cap base.